THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) As on 31.10.96, no Cootton/Man-made Fibre Mill was closed under the I.D. Act. 146 Cotton/Man-made Fibre Mill were otherwise closed due to lock outs, strikes and financial difficulties, etc. and 38 Cotton/Man-made Fibre Mills were under liquidation. State-wise figures of number of mills closed are given below :

Andhra Pradesh	10
Assam	1
Bihar	2
Gujarat	57
Haryana	5
Karnataka	10
Kerala	2
Madhya Pradesh	9
Maharasthra	19
Orissa	1
Rajasthan	6
Tamilnadu	40
Uttar Pradesh	14
West Bengal	6
Manipur	1
Daman and Diu	1
Total	184

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Cheating of Bank by Imposter

3186. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the newsitem "Firm cheated of Rs.20 lakh by imposter" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated November 29, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the imposter deposited a sum of Rs.30 lakh in a fake bank account and withdrew Rs.20 lakh therefrom;

(c) if so, the modus operandi adopted therein; and

(d) the action taken against the delinquent employees of the bank?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur have reported that one Shri Sandeep Dabas, engaged as Company Secretary by M/s. SKN Industries Limited having current account with a New Delhi branch of the State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur had approached the branch with request letters seeking issuance of bankers' cheques of Rs.10 lakhs each favouring three different parties. The bank issued three bankers cheques by debiting the account of M/s. SKN Industries Limited out of which one bankers' cheque was subsequently cancelled and the amount has been credited to the account of M/s SKN Industries Limited. The fraud came to light when the Managing Director of the Company alleged that the request letters presented by Shri Sandeep Dabas were forged. It was also alleged that Shri Dabas had opened Fraudulent accounts at South Extension branch of Canara Bank in the name of M/s. Iram Group International Private Limited by presenting forged documents and current account in the name of M/s. Marketing Syndicate at State Bank of India, Nazafgarh under proprietorship of Shri Sandeep Dabas himself from where the amounts credited through the two bankers' cheques were siphoned off.

It has been reported that an FIR has been lodged with local police and the banks has initiated action to ascertain staff lapses.

Participation of SSIs in Trade Fair

3187. DR. C. SILVERA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India Trade Promotion Organisation has organised a trade fair in Delhi recently to promote the business of Small Scale Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for the smooth growth of this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b). The theme of the India International Trade Fair 1996 was Small Scale Industries. The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) had put up display of the products manufactured in Small Scale Sector and the related technologies. The products covered in the display were agro and food processing item, appliances and consumer durables, automotive components, bicycle and bicycle parts, electronics, Gems and jewellery, leather, readymade garments and sports goods etc. 504 companies of Small Scale sector participated in the fair.

(c) The Govt. have provided various facilities in the from of incentives for growth of Small Scale Sector. These are :- excise concessions, priorly credit by banks, facility of term loan under the refinance schemes of SIDBI through scheduled banks and financial institutions, working capital loans upto Rs.2.00 lakhs at concessional rate of interest, reservation of 836 items for exclusive manufacture in SSI Sector, technical and information support services, technology improvement support, marketing and higher purchase facilities by NSIC, single point registration schemes for SSI Sector by NSIC, price and purchase preference in Govt. purchase programmes, infrastructural support for development of training capacities, financial support to acquire ISO-9000 certification, National Equity Funds